

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Report for the month of MARCH, 1945.

Issued by the Acting Government Statistician (Mr. R. J. Little) .. Perth, 4/5/1945.

This report gives the latest available figures relative to Population; Marriages, Births and Deaths; Land Settlement; State Government Revenue and Expenditure; Savings Banks; Bank Clearances; Real Estate Transactions; Sales Tax; Companies Registered and Bankruptcy; Government Railway Operations; Motor Vehicle Registrations; Building Permits; Butter Production; Gold Output and Dividends Reported; Prices; Employment; and Electricity Supply (Metropolitan Area).

POPULATION.

The population of the State on the 31st December, 1944, was estimated to be 488,500.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
(Issues prior to April 1945 contained particulars for Metropolitan Area only).

NOTE: Particulars relative to deaths refer to civilians only.

	No.	FEBRUARY		2 months ended	
		1945	1944	1945	1944
Marriages	No.	297	406	687	724
	*Rate per 1000 of population.	7.91	10.60	8.69	9.14
Births	No.	935	873	1,939	1,816
	*Rate per 1000 of population	24.91	22.80	24.53	22.94
Deaths	No.	359	350	746	708
	*Rate per 1000 of population.	9.56	9.14	9.44	8.94
Infant Mortality	No.	26	40	51	70
	Rate per 1000 live births	27.81	45.82	26.31	38.55
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH					
Tuberculosis		18	18	34	26
Cancer		41	44	91	89
Influenza		-	-	1	-
Diphtheria		1	2	4	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.		47	31	82	57
Arteriosclerosis		9	12	27	24
Diseases of the Heart		80	70	167	164
Pneumonia and Broncho-Pneumonia		16	17	35	45
Diarrhoea and Enteritis		3	3	8	8
Nephritis		16	11	33	21
Diseases of Early Infancy		12	22	25	40
Senility		20	15	33	25
Accidents		12	23	41	48
All Other Causes		84	82	165	158
TOTAL		359	350	746	708

*Equivalent Annual Rate.

See Overleaf.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Land taken up under conditional alienation during the three months ended March 1945 totalled 65,205 acres, an increase of 14,344 acres on the corresponding period last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 751,464 acres, a decrease of 584,686 acres.

STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	Month of March		9 months ended March	
	1945	1944	1945	1944
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Revenue ..	1,176,893	1,297,089	10,218,198	9,888,746
Revenue per Head of Population	£2. 8. 1d.	£2. 13. 8d.	£20. 18. 11d.	£20. 10. 6d.
Expenditure ..	1,170,934	1,116,267	10,247,760	10,027,799.
Expenditure per Head of Population	£2. 7. 10.	£2. 6. 2d.	£21. 0. 2d.	£20. 16. 3d.

SAVINGS BANKS.

Deposits on the 31st March, 1945, amounted to £30,210,691, or £61.12.7d. per head of population, as against £24,153,274, or £49.10.4d. per head as at the 31st March last year.

BANK CLEARANCES.

The average weekly clearances for the 4 weeks ended 26th March, 1945, amounted to £2,768,070, compared with £2,708,313 for the corresponding period last year.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds	March		9 months ended March	
	1945	1944	1945	1944
Transfers ..	(No. 971	692	7,677	5,485
	(£. 366,638	277,794	3,011,415	2,216,853
Mortgages ..	(No. 279	228	2,142	1,619
	(£. 406,427	204,614	2,150,229	1,209,975
Discharges of Mortgages	No. 563	498	4,327	4,302

SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE & EXEMPT GOODS AND TAX COLLECTED.

Month of Receipt of Returns	Taxable Goods		Sales of Exempt Goods	Tax Collected
	Sales in respect of which tax is payable (Gross)	Sales in respect of which tax is NOT payable (Gross)		
	£.	£.	£.	£.
1944 - March	677,720	712,843	1,444,480	103,665
April	770,416	566,513	1,627,139	116,197
May	683,010	571,025	1,510,170	115,254
June	755,542	590,549	1,638,830	112,306
July	706,185	668,445	1,897,871	110,856
August	813,398	663,749	1,448,938	118,491
September	926,471	805,080	1,545,195	110,574
October	1,099,405	509,349	1,394,583	116,416
November	874,649	771,898	1,622,266	112,531
December	712,619	567,240	1,395,211	112,383
1945 - January	808,314	604,283	1,708,485	128,267
February	711,327	640,732	1,180,561	109,340
March	697,298	750,151	1,362,562	108,056

COMPANIES REGISTERED.

Eight Local Companies, with a nominal capital of £33,000, and six foreign companies were registered for the nine months ended 31st March, 1945. For the corresponding period last year there were three local companies, with a nominal capital of £12,100, and eight foreign companies registered.

BANKRUPTCY.

	9 months ended March					
	1945		1944			
	No.	Liabilities £.	No.	Liabilities £.	Assets £.	Assets £.
Sequestration Orders	2	3,257	2,046	6	6,668	5,413
Deeds of Assignment (a)	1	672	1,016	1	780	661
Deeds of Arrangement	-	-	-	-	-	-

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

TRANSPORT.

The operations of the State Government Railways open for general and passenger traffic were as follows:-

	FEBRUARY		Eight months ended February	
	1945	1944	1945	1944
Gross Earnings £.	341,200	355,800	2,933,000	2,934,800
Working Expenses £.	292,851	302,481	2,455,490	2,519,146
Train miles run	492,150	467,634	4,189,069	4,044,898
Passenger Journeys	1,468,729	1,589,214	12,140,090	12,490,615
Tonnage carried -				
Paying Goods	229,220	190,094	1,845,258	1,492,199
Livestock	10,982	10,746	106,068	109,633
Departmental (Free Freight)	49,170	37,388	356,035	297,769
Total	289,372	238,228	2,307,361	1,899,601
Net Ton Mileage of -				
Paying Goods	27,444,041	24,172,931	206,307,096	182,165,818
Livestock	1,232,237	1,177,692	11,770,249	13,109,501
Departmental (Free Freight)	6,556,484	5,407,341	51,893,005	44,858,025
Total	35,232,762	30,757,964	269,970,350	240,133,344

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED (excluding Commonwealth-owned Vehicles).

Period	METROPOLITAN AREA					ENTIRE STATE				
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	No.	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	No.
Year 1944	23	310	5	35		28	803	9	93	
January	1	22	3	1		2	78	3	4	
February	1	28	2	1		1	70	2	3	
March	2	31	1	1		3	89	1	2	
April	1	30	1	1		1	91	1	4	
May	1	41	1	1		1	108	2	3	
June	1	45	1	5		1	86	2	7	
July	7	33	4	14		7	97	1	21	
August	1	23	1	1		1	44	1	32	
Sept.	2	17	1	2		2	41	1	3	
October	3	16	1	1		3	37	1	1	
November	1	11	1	1		1	36	1	1	
December	6	13	1	11		6	26	1	12	
1945										
January	5	8	1	12		5	30	1	15	
February	1	15	1	1		1	23	1	4	
March	1	26	1	24		(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	

(a) Not yet available.

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGISTRATIONS).

(Excluding Commonwealth-owned Vehicles)

Date at end of month	METROPOLITAN AREA					ENTIRE STATE				
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	No.	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	No.
1944										
January	17,707	5,290	229	2,465		29,017	20,253	276	3,902	
February	17,904	5,399	230	2,557		29,727	21,185	280	4,103	
March	17,916	5,401	230	2,558		29,887	21,425	280	4,151	
April	18,038	5,490	230	2,592		29,991	21,664	274	4,234	
May	18,126	5,567	231	2,629		30,273	22,117	276	4,308	
June	18,133	5,578	231	2,639		30,295	22,183	276	4,324	
July	17,507	5,872	243	2,209		28,835	20,926	295	3,387	
August	17,729	6,006	244	2,341		29,464	21,879	296	3,712	
Sept.	17,732	6,013	244	2,343		29,596	22,177	296	3,771	
October	17,934	6,168	244	2,431		29,613	22,436	293	3,903	
November	18,076	6,243	246	2,489		30,002	22,837	295	4,009	
December	18,083	6,244	246	2,491		30,051	22,946	298	4,031	
1945										
January	18,135	6,305	242	2,543		29,754	22,042	289	4,043	
February	18,261	6,384	244	2,612		30,199	22,687	296	4,193	
March	19,733	6,812	244	2,736		(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	

(a) Not yet available.

(3) COMMONWEALTH-OWNED VEHICLES (excluding Defence Service Vehicles).

	Cars	Wagons, Vans, etc.	Buses	Motor Cycles
1945				

BUILDING ACTIVITY.(1) PERMITS ISSUED IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA.

Period	New Dwellings and Hotels		Stores, Warehouses, Factories, etc.		Additions and Alterations		Total Permits Issued	
	No.	Value £.	No.	Value £.	No.	Value £.	No.	Value £.
MARCH, 1945	43	28,920	3	1,670	132	4,705	178	35,295
MARCH, 1944	16	7,345	6	20,812	85	16,026	107	44,183
9 months ended March, 1945.	350	237,192	15	39,763	932	150,645	1,307	427,600
9 months ended March, 1944.	69	33,794	17	33,548	645	99,108	731	166,450

(2) PERMITS ISSUED IN COUNTRY DISTRICTS.

(15 Local Government Authorities)

Period	New Dwellings and Hotels		Stores, Warehouses, Factories, etc.		Additions and Alterations		Total Permits Issued	
	No.	Value £.	No.	Value £.	No.	Value £.	No.	Value £.
MARCH, 1945	11	9,710	2	2,361	19	536	32	12,607
MARCH, 1944	1	80	-	-	10	280	11	360
9 months ended March, 1945.	63	46,989	10	4,657	199	11,581	272	63,227
9 months ended March, 1944.	15	4,075	6	1,715	128	6,289	149	12,079

BUTTER PRODUCTION IN FACTORIES.

397,191 lbs. were produced during February 1945, and 10,809,905 lbs. for the eight months ended February 1945, as against 395,676 lbs. and 12,103,142 lbs. respectively for the corresponding periods last year.

GOLD PRODUCTION.

Quantity	Fine Oz.	MARCH		3 months ended March	
		1945	1944	1945	1944
Quantity	Fine Oz.	38,855	38,886	116,310	108,878
Value (Australian Currency) £.		411,867	406,356	1,232,891	1,137,775

Dividends reported by Gold Mining Companies for the three months ending March 1945 amounted to £47,492, as against £399,700 for the corresponding period last year.



RETAIL PRICES INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base, weighted average of six capital cities for 1923/27 = 1000).

	MARCH		9 months ended March	
	1945	1944	1945	1944
Food and Groceries:				
Metropolitan Area	1062	1050	1058	1053
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	1191	1169	1185	1170
Northam	1071	1059	1068	1060
Bunbury	1049	1028	1041	1025
Geraldton	1084	1093	1089	1095

EMPLOYMENT INDEX SERIES

Month	FACTORIES (Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees) = 100)					RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS (b) (Base: July 1941 (9,578 Employees) = 1000)				
	1941	1942	1943	1944(a)	1945(a)	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
	109	116	128	137	142	—	1014	865	826	870
January	111	118	130	138	143	—	986	861	824	868
February	112	118	132	139	—	—	962	846	825	—
March	111	118	134	139	—	—	955	835	827	—
April	112	119	134	140	—	—	927	836	832	—
May	113	118	135	139	—	—	907	835	829	—
June	113	117	136	140(a)	—	1000	888	828	832	—
July	113	119	136	140	—	987	882	814	832	—
August	114	120	137	140	—	994	877	806	834	—
Sept.	115	122	138	141	—	996	874	801	837	—
October	116	123	136	142	—	1016	873	814	851	—
November	118	124	137	143	—	1028	886	840	886	—
December	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(a) Figures subsequent to June 1944 are preliminary and are based primarily on Pay Roll Tax Returns.

(b) Indexes computed by Commonwealth Statistician from Pay Roll Tax Returns.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA.

(Generated by the W.A. Government Power Station)

	MARCH		9 months ended March	
	1945	1944	1945	1944
Units Generated .. (1000 K.W.H.)	16,109	14,862	138,951	129,553
Units Sold .. (1000 K.W.H.)	12,785	12,516	116,314	110,403